#### Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

June 17, 2010

1002

The Honorable Julius Genachowski Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

#### Chairman Genachowski:

We write to express our concern about any further efforts to delay the Commission's review of the proposed transaction between Comcast and General Electric to form a new NBC Universal (NBCU).

This joint venture will combine the efforts of a leading communications company and an iconic content creation company to respond to rapid technological developments, market dynamics, and changing consumer demands. We believe the companies' many voluntary commitments to strengthen broadcasting, invest in innovative programming, and deliver a multiplatform video experience for consumers should compel the Commission to conclude that this transaction, without additional conditions, furthers the public interest and should be approved.

We also would like to commend you for the deliberate way in which you have tried to conduct your agency's review of the transaction. Considering the continued fragility of the national economy and the importance of giving the business community the certainty it needs to proceed with investment, it is imperative that the Commission's review process maintains the highest standard of substantive and procedural integrity and signals to the markets that American businesses will be treated fairly by Federal regulatory authorities.

Between your efforts and those of the Congress, the Comcast-NBCU joint venture is undergoing extensive scrutiny and the public has had unparalleled opportunities for participation. Four congressional committees have held nearly 20 hours of public hearings since February to hear from a wide range of witnesses on all aspects of the joint venture. The parties have answered well over 100 congressional questions for the record to the committees and the Commission. And while the Commission originally provided 45 days for initial comments and petitions to deny, with an additional 30 days for responses and an additional 15 days for replies to responses—the longest formal pleading cycle it has ever set for any similar transaction—the Media Bureau granted an additional 45 days for public comment.

We are disappointed that, despite five congressional hearings and the Commission's extraordinary step of holding a seven-hour public forum in Chicago on July 13th, certain opponents of the transaction are continuing to ask for additional steps to delay and complicate the process. We note that never in the history of the FCC's review of media or telecommunications transactions has the agency conducted even one hearing in this fashion.

We urge you to reject future dilatory requests, and to make clear that you will focus on the legal and economic analyses that are relevant to your public interest review.

You have consistently rejected efforts to politicize the review of the merits of this transaction. We urge you to continue to resist these demands, because the delays that they are intended to create will hurt consumers, workers, and competition. We recommend that you hold assiduously to the FCC's 180-day transaction clock and reject any further efforts to stop the clock.

This transaction presents opportunities that will launch the communications, information and technology industry into a new era of competition, creativity, and innovation. The Commission should act on this pro-consumer, pro-competition transaction without delay. The longer the Commission takes to act on this joint venture, the longer current and potentially new and innovative jobs remain in limbo.

Sincerely,

Cliff Stead is Member of Congress

Joe Barton
Member of Congress

Ed Whitfield Member of Congress

John Shadlegg

Member of Congress

George Radanovich Member of Congress Fred Upton

Member of Congres

Ralph Hall

Member of Congress

John Shimkus

Member of Congress

Roy Blunt

Member of congress

Joseph Pitts

Member of Congress

Mary Boso Mack

Mary Bono Mack Member of Congress

Mike Rogers

Member of Congress

John Sullivan
Member of Congress

Michael Burges

Member of Congress

Phil Gingre

Member of Congress

Parker Griffith

Member of Congress

I A Terry
Member of Congress

Sue Myrick

Member of Congress

Tim Murphy

Member of Congress

Marsha Blackburn Member of Congress

10

Steve Scalisc

Member of Congress

Robert Latta

Member of Congress

#### **FRED UPTON**

6TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

#### SUBCOMMITTEES:

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT RANKING REPUBLICAN MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS, TECHNOLOGY, AND THE INTERNET



#### Congress of the United States House of Representatives

DC OFFICE:

2183 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515–2206 (202) 225–3761 Fax; (202) 225–4986

#### MICHIGAN HOME OFFICES:

157 SOUTH KALAMAZOO MALL SUITE 180 KALAMAZOO, MI 49007 (269) 385–0039 FAX: (269) 385–2888

> 800 CENTRE, SUITE 106 800 SHIP STREET ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085 (269) 982-1986 FAX: (269) 982-0237

www.house.gov/upton E-Mait: tellupton@mail.house.gov

Please deliver the following pages
To: The Honorable Julius Genachowski, c/o Mr. Michael Perko
Business / Office: FCC - Office of Legislative Affairs
Date: 06-17-2010 Fax Number: 202-418-2806
From:
Congressman Fred Upton  Joan Hillebrands  Katic Novaria  Sean Bonyun  Nick Culp  Michael Beckerman  Helen Prince  Bits Thomas  Mark Ratner  Deke Tompkins
Number of Pages (including cover sheet): 4
If you do not receive all pages or have any problems with receiving, please call 202-225-3761
Regarding:



September 29, 2010

The Honorable Ed Whitfield U.S. House of Representatives 2411 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Whitfield:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

I agree that the Commission's analysis of the proposed Comcast-GE transaction must be thorough, fair, and conducted in an expeditious manner. Staff studied carefully the Commission's past practices in reviewing proposed transactions in order to develop procedures that better achieve these objectives. As part of this effort, the Commission's *Public Notice* seeking comment on the applications required that all substantive issues be raised in the initial filings so that the parties would have the opportunity to address the issues as early as possible in the proceeding.

Please be assured that the issues discussed in your letter, including the potential benefits of a combined Comcast-NBC Universal to the American public, will be considered carefully as part of the Commission's independent review of the transaction. Our staff will continue to work diligently as it reviews the record compiled in the proceeding, including all petitions and comments received from the public. We also will continue to coordinate our efforts with those of the Department of Justice as we strive to have a comprehensive and timely review.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



September 29, 2010

The Honorable Fred Upton U.S. House of Representatives 2183 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Upton:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Lee Terry U.S. House of Representatives 2331 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Terry:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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Sincerely,



September 29, 2010

The Honorable John Sullivan U.S. House of Representatives 434 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Sullivan:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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Sincerely,



September 29, 2010

The Honorable Cliff Stearns
U.S. House of Representatives
2370 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Stearns:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable John M. Shimkus U.S. House of Representatives 2452 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Shimkus:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable John Shadegg U.S. House of Representatives 436 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Shadegg:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Steve Scalise U.S. House of Representatives 429 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Scalise:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Mike Rogers U.S. House of Representatives 133 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rogers:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable George Radanovich U.S. House of Representatives 2410 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Radanovich:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Joseph R. Pitts U.S. House of Representatives 420 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pitts:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Sue Myrick U.S. House of Representatives 230 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Myrick:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Tim Murphy U.S. House of Representatives 322 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Murphy:

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Robert E. Latta U.S. House of Representatives 1531 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Latta:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Ralph M. Hall U.S. House of Representatives 2405 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hall:

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Parker Griffith U.S. House of Representatives 417 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Griffith:

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Phil Gingrey U.S. House of Representatives 119 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gingrey:

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Michael Burgess U.S. House of Representatives 229 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Burgess:

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Mary Bono Mack U.S. House of Representatives 104 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Bono Mack:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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The Honorable Roy D. Blunt U.S. House of Representatives 2229 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Blunt:

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September 29, 2010

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn U.S. House of Representatives 217 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Blackburn:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

I agree that the Commission's analysis of the proposed Comcast-GE transaction must be thorough, fair, and conducted in an expeditious manner. Staff studied carefully the Commission's past practices in reviewing proposed transactions in order to develop procedures that better achieve these objectives. As part of this effort, the Commission's *Public Notice* seeking comment on the applications required that all substantive issues be raised in the initial filings so that the parties would have the opportunity to address the issues as early as possible in the proceeding.

Please be assured that the issues discussed in your letter, including the potential benefits of a combined Comcast-NBC Universal to the American public, will be considered carefully as part of the Commission's independent review of the transaction. Our staff will continue to work diligently as it reviews the record compiled in the proceeding, including all petitions and comments received from the public. We also will continue to coordinate our efforts with those of the Department of Justice as we strive to have a comprehensive and timely review.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



September 29, 2010

The Honorable Joe Barton U.S. House of Representatives 2109 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Barton:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), together with GE's subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. I appreciate your interest in this important transaction and value your views. We will make your correspondence part of the record in the proceeding.

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